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PAGE 01 STATE 206761 030141Z

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TO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL.

PAGE 02 STATE 206761 030141Z

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 206761

KAMPALA - PLEASE PASS TO AMB. DAVID RAWSON KIGALI

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: TZ, US, TS, KE, CG, NI, DJ

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS DATE/CASE ID: 17 SEP 2008 200103014

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SUBJECT: RWANDA WAR CRIMES

REF: A. STATE 198848 B. USUN NEW YORK 3089 (NOTAL) C. PRETORIA 10774

- 1. CONFIDENTIAL -- ENTIRE TEXT.
- 2. SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST: POST IS ASKED TO MAKE APPEAL FOR PRESIDENT MANDELA AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS NZO TO EXPRESS THEIR SUPPORT FOR A RWANDA WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL AND TO SEEK THE SUPPORT OF OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WITH WHOM THEY WILL BE MEETING. END SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST.
- 3. AS INDICATED IN REFS A AND B, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION OF EXPERTS WILL BE CONCLUDED EXPEDITIOUSLY AND THAT A FOLLOW-ON TRIBUNAL WILL BE ESTABLISHED ALONG THE LINES OF THAT CREATED FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 206761 030141Z 4. POST SHOULD CONVEY OUR POSITION TO THE SAG AS INDICATED IN REFS A AND B, AND SEEK A COMMITMENT FROM SAG

TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE TRIBUNAL AND SEEK THE BACKING OF OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS DURING VISITS IN AUGUST.

- 5. POST SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT THE SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT MANDELA AND FOREIGN MINISTER NZO AND OTHERS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT WOULD LEND GREAT CREDIBILITY AND MOMENTUM FOR THIS IMPORTANT EFFORT AND THAT THE PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS OF ATROCITIES IN AN IMPARTIAL INTERNATIONAL FORUM IS CRITICAL FOR FEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN THE REGION.
- 6. POST SHOULD ALSO POINT OUT THAT SOUTH AFRICA COULD AND SHOULD PLAY A PROMINENT ROLE IN THIS EFFORT, THEREBY PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FURTHERING ITS MORAL LEADERSHIP IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. THIS WILL BE PARTICULARLY TRUE IF, AS WE HOPE, JUSTICE GOLDSTONE WILL OVERSEE BOTH YUGOSLAV AND RWANDA WAR CRIMES.
- 7. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL IF THE SAG COULD MAKE FUBLIC STATEMENTS TO ASSURE RWANDA GOVERNMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR A TRIBUNAL AND TO

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URGE THE GOVERNMENT NOT TO BEGIN NATIONAL PROSECUTIONS.
THE SAG ALSO COULD URGE THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT TO CURB
VIGILANTE JUSTICE AND AWAIT AN INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL.

8. POST SHOULD EMPHASIZE TO SAG THE POTENTIALLY DESTABLIZING EFFECT NATIONAL PROSECUTIONS COULD HAVE, INCLUDING A NEW SPATE OF VIOLENCE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04

STATE 206761 030141Z

- 9. POST SHOULD ALSO RAISE THE DETENTION ISSUE OUTLINED IN REFS A AND B AND ASK SAG TO EMPHAS ZE TO OTHER AFRICAN STATES THE IMPORTANCE OF DETAINING PERSONS AGAINST WHOM THERE IS CREDIBLE EVIDENCE THAT THEY PERPETRATED ATROCITIES.
- 10. POST SHOULD SEEK THE SUPPORT OF SAG FOR A SC RESOLUTION ALONG THE LINES OUTLINED IN REF B, AND TO URGE PRESIDENT MANDELA AND FOREIGN MINISTER NZO TO RAISE THE ISSUE WITH OTHER AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH OAU.
- 11. PLEASE SLUG REPLIES FOR L- CRYSTAL NIX, L-UNA EVAN BLOOM AND USUN/W DAVID SCHEFFER.

MINIMIZE CONSIDERED CHRISTOPHER

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